

Figure 4: Section 1: Safety Assessment (Example)

Family Case Name: _____ Family Case #: _____
County Name: _____ County #: _____ Office: _____ Worker #: _____
CPS Referral Date: ____/____/____ Current Date: ____/____/____ Assessment (check one): ___ Initial ___ Review

Section 1: Safety Assessment

Part A. Safety Factor Identification

Directions: The factors in the following list are behaviors or conditions that may be associated with a child's being in immediate danger of serious harm. Identify the presence or absence of each factor by circling either "yes" or "no." **Note: The vulnerability of each child needs to be considered throughout the assessment. Children ages 0 through 6 cannot protect themselves. For older children, inability to protect themselves could result from diminished mental or physical capacity or repeated victimization.**

1. Yes No Caregiver's behavior is violent or out of control.
2. Yes No Caregiver describes or acts toward child in predominantly negative terms or has extremely unrealistic expectations.
3. Yes No Caregiver caused serious physical harm to the child or has made a plausible threat to cause serious physical harm.
4. Yes No The family refuses access to the child, or there is reason to believe that the family is about to flee, and/or the child's whereabouts cannot be ascertained.
5. Yes No Caregiver has not provided or will not provide supervision necessary to protect child from potentially serious harm.
6. Yes No Caregiver is unwilling or unable to meet the child's immediate needs for food, clothing, shelter, and/or medical or mental health care.
7. Yes No Caregiver has previously maltreated a child, and the severity of the maltreatment, or the caregiver's response to the previous incident(s), suggests that child safety may be an immediate concern.
8. Yes No Child is fearful of caregiver(s), other family members, or other people living in or having access to the home.
9. Yes No The child's physical living conditions are hazardous and immediately threatening.
10. Yes No Child sexual abuse is suspected, and circumstances suggest that child safety may be an immediate concern.
11. Yes No Caregiver's drug or alcohol use seriously affects his/her ability to supervise, protect, or care for the child.
12. Yes No Other (specify) _____

IF NO SAFETY FACTORS ARE PRESENT, GO TO SECTION 3: SAFETY DECISION

Part B. Safety Factor Description

Directions: For all safety factors that are marked "Yes," note the applicable safety factor number and then briefly describe the specific individuals, behaviors, conditions, and/or circumstances associated with that particular safety factor.

Source: Children's Research Center, 2001.